



# Ocotillo

## Weekly Update

A newsletter for the residents of Glendale's Ocotillo District



**Councilmember Norma Alvarez**

**February 25, 2011**

Dear Ocotillo District Residents,

Please remember that it is important to keep up to date on information and happenings at your school district. A great place to start is their Web sites – you'll find everything from budget information to upcoming events!

- Glendale Elementary School District: [www.gesd40.org](http://www.gesd40.org)
- Glendale Union High School District: [www.guhsdaz.org](http://www.guhsdaz.org)

– Councilmember Norma Alvarez



### **New Cultural Tourism Efforts Highlighted by the City's Historic Preservation Program.**

According to statistics from the Travel Industry Association of America, tourists include at least one historic activity in their plans while traveling.

Knowing how important this is for tourism, the city is capitalizing on a new historic initiative, known as the Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway, which is the latest renovation to complete the preservation of this area. The project will break ground soon with a scheduled completion for September 2011.

The city has been restoring the area at Grand and Myrtle avenues since 2006. This most recent update involves exterior and interior restoration of both the adobe house and service station, including roof repair, new windows and doors. Downtown's 1935 Morcomb Adobe House and 1930 service station will look like it once did in its earlier days, providing lasting evidence of Glendale's heritage and history, while enhancing the area. The renovation project will be funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior.

Another great historical preservation program that is gaining momentum is Glendale's Bronze Plaque Program. Numerous plaques on some of the city's historic buildings have helped familiarize residents and visitors with treasured historic places. Approximately 200 bronze plaques, funded by grants from the city's Planning Department, have been installed throughout Historic Downtown Glendale.

[Learn more](#) about Glendale's historic preservation efforts.

### **Win the Opportunity to Throw Out the First Pitch at the March 6 Spring Training Game.**

If you've given up on your dream of ever pitching in the majors, it's time to get your throwing arm back in shape. The city of Glendale is holding a contest to see who gets to throw out the first pitch at the March 6 spring training game between the Chicago White Sox and Kansas City Royals at Camelback Ranch – Glendale.

March 6 is Glendale Day at the ballpark and part of the celebration includes a chance to outshine presidents and recapture childhood dreams. To win the right to throw the first ball, all you have to do is show "I am the Ultimate Camelback Ranch – Glendale Spring Training Fan." Here's how.

[Click here](#) for contest rules and to enter online! Participants, who must be 18 years or older, are asked to write an essay of 300 words or less explaining why they are the ultimate fan. To further their case, participants can also submit an optional photo of them enjoying a spring training game or holding a sign declaring "I am the ultimate fan." The sign can be downloaded from the website.

Entries are due by 5 p.m., March 1, 2011. Essays will be juried by an Essay Review Committee and one winner will be announced on March 3.

**Plan your spring training adventure today!**

[Click here](#) for everything you need for your trip to Camelback Ranch-Glendale including schedules, promotions, ticket discounts and more!

**Glendale University 101 Spring 2011 Semester - Register by Feb. 28.** Sign up now for the Glendale University 101 spring semester! This free educational program, offered in partnership with Cox Communications, is for Glendale residents and business owners who want to learn more about the city of Glendale and how it operates. Each class highlights key functions of the city, such as police and fire, finance and budget, community services, public services and more. At the first class on March 7, participants will meet Glendale's Mayor and City Council. Please [click here](#) for more information about this 10-week program. The last day to register is Feb 28th.

# Around Town

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[Click here](#) for the City Council meeting schedule. [Click here](#) for past Council meeting agendas and minutes. [Click here](#) to watch a City Council meeting online.

**Green Living Classes.** Join us on February 26 at the Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St., for the following free green living classes.

- 12:30 to 1:30 Simple Savings 101 AKA Be the Biggest Loser
- 1:30 to 2:30 A Brighter Future, Solar Energy for Your Home
- 2:30 to 3:00 The "How-To" on Programmable Thermostats

Classes are held in the Auditorium. Glendale residents who successfully complete energy classes will receive free energy-saving devices funded through the Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant. To register, please call 623-930-3760. [Read more.](#)

**2011 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award Nominations Due March 1.** The city of Glendale Historic Preservation Commission is accepting nominations for the 16th Annual Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award.

The prestigious Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award was developed by the Historic Preservation Commission to recognize outstanding contributions by individuals and organizations to historic preservation initiatives in the city of Glendale. The award is named after Ruth Byrne, who has made significant contributions to historic preservation in the city of Glendale. Ruth served on the Historic Preservation Commission and is past president of the Glendale Arizona Historical Society. For more details, including submittal information and to download a nomination form, [click here](#). Nomination forms are due by March 1, 2011.

**The Business Forum Presents "50 Ways to Promote a Small Business on a Small Budget."** The Business Forum at Glendale Library is an opportunity for business people to network with others and to establish beneficial relationships with potential clients. On Wednesday, March 2, the group will meet in the large meeting room at Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. The free event is from 5:30 – 7:15 p.m. Attendees are invited to meet new contacts, exchange business cards and share their stories. Additionally, every month a featured speaker presents information on a variety of current business topics. March's speaker, Helen Goldman, will present "50 Ways to Promote a Small Business on a Small Budget." Businesswoman Joan Howard is facilitating The Business Forum. Contact her at 602-725-3246 for more information about the program or to RSVP.

## Downtown Glendale Hosts Three Events in One Day – March 5

- **Artwerks First Saturdays** • Walkway off 58th Ave. & Glendale • 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Paris in the Spring French Market and Sidewalk Cafe** • Historic Downtown Glendale and Catlin Court • 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- **Open Air Market** • 5734 W. Glendale Avenue, Historic Downtown Glendale • 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information about the March 5 events, [click here](#) or call the Glendale Visitor Center at 623-930-4500.

**Nominations for Promoting Diversity Award 2011 due March 11.** Each year, the city of Glendale and the Glendale Chamber Foundation recognize the accomplishments of Maricopa County residents who contribute significantly to creating a diverse and inclusive community. Glendale is now seeking nominations for the 2011 Promoting Diversity Award in honor of the late César Chávez. The award commemorates the powerful life and legacy of Chávez.

For more information about the Promoting Diversity Award and to download the nomination instructions, [click here](#). Nominations must be received or postmarked by 5 p.m. March 11, 2011.

The recipient of the award will be honored at the Cesar Chavez Celebrating Diversity Breakfast on March 31 at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive. Helios Education Foundation president and CEO Paul J. Luna will give the keynote address at the event. For more information about the breakfast call the Glendale Chamber of Commerce at 623-937-4754.

**Contact Councilmember Alvarez**

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